COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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July 25, 1996

Mr. David L. Foley
Base Environmental Coordinator
Directorate of Public Works
Fort Pickett
Blackstone, Virginia 23824

Dear Mr. Foley:

Thank you for providing the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Federal Facilities Restoration and Superfund, the opportunity to comment on the draft "Scope of Work-Investigate Abandoned Gasoline Pipeline, Fort Pickett, Virginia".

Attached are the staff's comments concerning the Fort Pickett document. If you have questions concerning these comments please contact me at (804) 698-4192.

Sincerely,

Durwood H. Willis
Office of Federal Facilities
Restoration and Superfund

cc: Erica S. Dameron, DEQ
David K. Paylor, DEQ
Michael Taurino, EPA Region III (3HW50)

Comments on the "Scope of Work-Investigate Abandoned Gasoline Pipeline, Fort Pickett, Virginia"

Page 2. Section 2.3.1.a The soil samples are to be collected midway between the ground surface and the top of the pipe and also six inches below the trench bottom. The trench bottom samples alone would seem to be sufficient.

Page 2. Section 2.3.1.a The Scope of Work proposes that all investigation derived waste be drummed and disposed. Attached is the Department of Environmental Quality Policy on Investigation Derived Waste June 28, 1995 and Department of Environmental Quality Policy for the Handling of Investigation Derived Waste (IDW) July 24, 1996 Addendum.

Page 2. Section 2.3.1.a The Scope of Work estimates that 100 samples will be retained for analysis but does not specify the screening criterion which will be used to make this decision. What PID reading will be used to select samples for analysis?

Page 2. Section 2.3.1.c Groundwater is to be sampled if encountered. What analysis is to be performed on the water samples? BTEX by Method 8020 would be appropriate.

Page 2. Section 2.3.1.e The Scope of Work estimates that 100 samples will be analyzed for four parameters totaling 480 analyses (with QA/QC). Due to the number of analyses, positive results for BTEX analyses may be used as a trigger for lead and TPH analyses.

There is the potential for encountering considerable free-phase product during this investigation. Provisions should be made to manage and dispose of any product encountered.

It is suggested that the report be referred to as the Pipeline Assessment Report rather than Site Characterization report.

Department of Environmental Quality
Waste Operations
Policy for the Handling of
Investigation Derived Waste (IDW)

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Waste Operations has received a request for guidance from the regulated community concerning the Commonwealth of Virginia's requirements regarding the management and disposal of investigation derived waste (IDW). Because Virginia administers an authorized state RCRA program, the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations (VSWMR) and the Virginia Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (VHWMR) will serve as the governing requirements in lieu of Federal RCRA regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 260 - 270) except for the Land Disposal Restrictions of 40 CFR 268. For reference, please see the Virginia Waste Management Act, Code of Virginia §10.1-1400 et seq.; the Virginia Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (VHWMR) (VR 672-10-1); the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations (VSWMR) (VR 672-20-10); Federal: the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), 42 USC 6901; and the U. S. Department of Transportation Rules for the Transportation of Hazardous Materials, 49 CFR Part 107, 171.1 - 172.558.

With regard to IDW, it is the site manager's responsibility to determine whether the wastes generated during an investigation meet the definition of a solid or hazardous waste. The site manager will be either the on-scene coordinator (i.e., either the federal official predesignated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or the U.S. Coast Guard to coordinate and direct federal responses under subpart D or the official designated by the lead agency to coordinate and direct removal actions under subpart E of the National Contingency Plan (NCP)), or the remedial project manager (i.e., the official designated by the lead agency to coordinate, monitor, or direct remedial or other response actions under subpart E of the NCP).

If there is a possibility that either the ground water or the soil at the location where a monitoring well is installed is contaminated, the site manager must determine whether or not the well cuttings, purge water, and/or other IDW are contaminated (i.e., whether they are solid or hazardous wastes). In these cases, the site manager may use knowledge of the contaminated media to declare that the IDW is solid or hazardous waste. If analysis shows that no contamination is present in the soil or the ground water at the location where the monitoring well is installed, neither the well cuttings, nor the purge water would be regulated as a solid waste. An example of a situation where the site manager might use knowledge to determine proper disposition (i.e., testing would not be required) would involve materials generated at locations where wells are installed for the purpose of ascertaining naturally occurring levels of

inorganic constituents and there is no basis to expect contamination, i.e., there is no past history of hazardous waste management activities or releases in these areas. If this is the case, the soils, cuttings, purge water, etc. would not be regulated as solid wastes. Test results or knowledge of the waste should be used to screen the well cuttings, purge water and other IDW to demonstrate that concentrations of contaminants are below or equal to background levels.

Purge water, well cuttings from monitoring wells, and other IDW, if tested, must be done so in accordance with EPA SW-846, Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Wastes, Physical/Chemical Methods, 3rd edition, 1986, as updated. If contaminant levels are found to be above background levels, the IDW would be considered a solid waste. Should test results further indicate that the IDW contains a listed hazardous waste, or if the IDW exhibits a characteristic of hazardous waste, the IDW is a hazardous waste and must be managed and disposed in accordance with the VHWMR. Alternatively, contaminated IDW that contains a listed hazardous waste must be managed as a hazardous waste until it no longer "contains" the hazardous waste, i.e., until the constituent levels are below site specific risk based levels. This is consistent with EPA's Contained In Policy. The DEQ should be contacted directly to determine the site specific risk based levels that would apply to IDW that contains listed hazardous waste.

If the IDW is not a hazardous waste, but contains levels of contaminants above background levels, the IDW must be managed in accordance with the VSWMR. Solid waste generated from cleanup or investigation activities is considered a special waste under Part VIII of the VSWMR. Prior to acceptance of a special waste for disposal at a solid waste management facility, the operator must obtain prior authorization from the Department. Purge water, on the other hand, must be disposed at a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) or other wastewater treatment system operating in accordance with its Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit, provided that all other pertinent criteria are satisfied.

The on-site treatment, storage, or disposal of IDW must be authorized by a permit from the DEQ. A generator of hazardous IDW may accumulate such wastes in tanks or containers in accordance with VHWMR §6.4.E. Treatment of hazardous waste in tanks or containers within the 90 day accumulation period may only occur upon prior written approval from the appropriate DEQ Regional Office.

This policy may be revised or rescinded at any time as Federal and/or State regulations change.

Signed:

Hassan Vakili

Hassan Vakili, Director
Waste Operations

6-28-95

Date

ADDENDUM

Department of Environmental Quality
Waste Operations
Policy for the Handling of
Investigation Derived Waste (IDW)

This Addendum is being provided to clarify the distinction between the disposal requirements for Investigation Derived Waste (IDW) that is generated from an undefined area, and the requirements for soil and sediment IDW when soil and sediment is generated from an area of known contamination subject to further response measures with oversight from DEQ and/or EPA.

"DEQ Policy for the Handling of Investigation Derived Waste" dated July 5, 1995, specifies that IDW contaminated above background levels is considered a solid waste and must be managed in accordance with the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations. If the IDW contains a listed hazardous waste or exhibits a characteristic of hazardous waste, it must be managed as hazardous waste in accordance with the Virginia Hazardous Waste Management Regulations. Under this policy, returning contaminated IDW to the location from which it is generated is prohibited.

However, this policy was not intended to address the requirements associated with soil and sediment IDW generated from an area of known contamination when this area is subject to future response activities with oversight from DEQ or EPA. In such a case, the management and disposal of the IDW should be in accordance with the pertinent EPA guidance governing the applicability of RCRA land disposal restrictions. ("Management of IDW During SI's", EPA/540/G-91/009).

Under the EPA guidance, replacement of soil and sediment IDW into the area of contamination from which it is generated is permissible provided that the waste is not treated prior to placement. Therefore, the above-referenced DEQ IDW policy now recognizes that if soil and sediment IDW is generated from an area of known contamination, and this area is subject to further response measures with oversight from DEQ and/or EPA, the IDW may be placed back into the area from which it is taken provided there is no treatment of this waste prior to placement.

Signed Hassan Vakil Date 7/24/96

Hassan Vakili, Director
Division of Waste Operations